

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2003. Claims 1-23, 25, and 28 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 30 has been amended. New claims 31-54 have been added. Claims 24, 26-27 and 29-54 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Applicant notes that in the Office Action, it appears that claim 30 was not indicated as being pending. Applicant added dependent claim 30 in the previous Amendment mailed to the Office on March 20, 2003. Applicant assumes that the Office Action had a typographical error and that claim 30 should have been pending. Claim 30 has been amended in this Amendment.

Claims 1-11, 19-21, 23, 25 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,674,762 to See et al. ("See") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,194,269 to Sung et al. ("Sung"). Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejection. However, to expedite prosecution, applicant has canceled these claims without prejudice to further prosecute the canceled claims at a later time if desired. By canceling the claims this rejection has been rendered moot at this time.

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,153,143 to Schlais et al. ("Schlais") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,651,406 to Shimizu ("Shimizu"). Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejection. However, to expedite prosecution, applicant has canceled these claims without prejudice to further prosecute the canceled claims at a later time if desired. By canceling the claims this rejection has been rendered moot at this time.

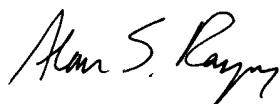
Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the claims 24, 26-27 and 29 are allowed.

Applicant has added new claims 31-54. Support for these claims may be found throughout the specification and Figures. Claims 31-39 depend from claim 24. Claims 40-43 depend from claim 26. Claims 44-47 depend from claim 27. Claims 48-51 depend from claim 29. Claim 52 is independent and claims 53-54 depend from claim 52. It is believed that no new matter has been entered.

The Examiner made various comments concerning the obviousness of certain features of the present invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The Examiner's comments that have not been discussed above are deemed moot at this time in view of the this response.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss the steps necessary to place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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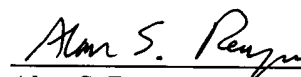
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Sept. 19, 2003.


Alan S. Raynes September 19, 2003
(Date)